

additional legal expense of taking their issue up before the Commission of Industrial Relations, but they will still have the opportunity to have a third party look at the issues of the wage package and make a determination. And we feel that in this instance it will help to satisfy the concerns that each party would have to a labor dispute. Now there will be an amendment that will be offered I believe by Senator Bromm or Vrtiska which has been agreed upon between the two parties that allows for the...both parties to come forward. Both parties have to agree to the special master. The way the bill was originally drafted, it provided that only one party could request a special master. And as you may recall, this bill was introduced last year. It was advanced out of the committee in its current form that we have in front of us in the green copy form, and it was not debated last year because of the short session and the lack of time even though it was prioritized as a committee priority bill. This bill was also prioritized as a committee priority bill and I'm happy that the two parties have come together to resolve this issue and enact this piece of legislation. So, Madam President, I am through with my introduction and I think we can proceed on to the amendments that are being offered by Senator Bromm.

PRESIDENT ROBAK PRESIDING

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senators Vrtiska and Bromm would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President and members. My amendment AM0427 amends LB 365 by requiring both parties to request a special masters before one can be appointed. As the bill currently reads, either party in an industrial dispute between employees and a school board or ESUs or community college can bind both parties to the appointment of a special master to hear the case. AM0427 would amend the bill so that both parties would have to request the appointment of a special masters. In other words, in a case between a school district and a teacher, the amendment would require both the district and the teacher's association to request the appointment of a special master. I am generally opposed to LB 365 and I vote against advancing the measure from the committee. Senator